AFTER BELMONT TROLLEY LINE

R. R. COMMISSION ASKS HELP OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

New President of New York and Queens County System Admits That Conditions Are "Deplorable"-Hasn't Sold Improvement Bonds -Anger of Residents

The State Railroad Commission has requested Attorney-General Jackson to begin mandamus proceedings against August mont's New York and Queens County Railway Company to compel the officials of the road to furnish proper trolley service to the residents of the Borough of Queens. This action was taken by the board following a mass of complaints filed with the commission for the last year or more, in which it was charged that the New York and Queens County Railway Company was making no effort to give decent service and had both insufficient rolling stock and insufficient power to operate the cars that the system required.

The commission gave a hearing to about fifty residents of Queens at the office at I Madison avenue on Friday. It was brought about largely by the mass meetings held recently in Flushing, Steinway, Jamaica and other towns in that borough. Commissioners Dickey, Aldridge, Baker and Rockwell heard flery speeches from a dozen of the men from Queens and then questioned F. L. Fuller, who was elected president of the trolley company on last Wednesday. Mr. Fuller was formerly vice-president and general manager. Commis-sioner Dickey then offered this resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas last August this board authorized sake of stocks and bonds by the New York and Queens County Railway Company that a certain carefully arranged programme improvements should be carried out for the general betterment of existing conditions,

Whereas the general manager now prac-

judgment taken the necessary steps to carry out their agreement, be it

Resolved, That the case be put in the hands of the Attorney-General for action, particularly with reference to the particular complaints that have been made to this board.

At the recent mass meetings in Queens to denounce the management of the Bei-mont road it has been declared that the company has only 103 trolley cars to operate seventy-nine miles of track, that many of the cars are out of repair and that the company has been running some of its summer cars during the winter. The of its summer cars during the winter. The Queens folk were indignant, because the officials of the company had promised a year ago last September, in response to year ago last September, in response to repeated protests, to put on twenty new cars before September 1. The company has put on only ten cars, and taken off some of the old ones, so that the conditions are no better than they were before.

The charge was made that the cars which had accompadations for control for the control of the compadations.

had accommodations for only forty-four persons generally carried more than a hundred, and that on the Jamaica line the cars were always so crowded that young women students of the Jamaica Normal School were jammed into the cars

with Italian laborers.

At the hearing before the commission President Fuller got the floor first and said: President Fuller got the moor tirst and said.
"I will save the time of this commission by admitting that many of the conditions protested against are true. We have sold protested against are true. We have sold no bonds as directed by the commission, because we could find no market for them. We have been borrowing money at 6 and 7 per cent. We have made some changes in per cent We have made some changes in the management and are trying to build up the equipment. I know we have given the people of Queens deplorable service, and have not been able to run our cars on schedthe time. We have replaced 278 armatures, thirty-six of which were burned out, and have bought seventy-seven new wheels." Alderman Michael Carter of Jamaica

Alderman Michael Carter of campany jumped up and asked why the company did not repair the tracks so that the cars could stay on them. President Fuller said would stay on them. President Fuller said he had been hiring all the men he could find, but that weather conditions had prevented any work from being done.

"The fact that the company has not sold any bonds as the commission directed them and is fold to us for the first time to-day."

to do is told to us for the first time to-day," said Commissioner Dickey. "Why have you not provided extra accommodations for these people? Promises don't help the these people? Promises don't help the straphangers of Queens county. Where have you made improvements? What guarantee have we that the service will be President Fuller drew out a bunch of

papers, which he said were contracts for forty new two motor cars, which had been ordered on March 19. "The guarantee is contained in these papers," he said. "I don't see how that will help out any at present time," said Commission

John Adickes, a Jamaica merchant, charged that the trolley company was holding out on the improvements because it wanted to help out the Long Island Railroad on passenger traffic.

"There is no proof of that," said President Fuller.

"You can't deny that the Belmont interests control the New York and Queens County Railroad lines, and that August Belmont is a director of the Long Island Railroad," said Mr. Adickes.

"The Long Island Railroad owns the Jamaica and Hempstead lines, but it dean't own our lines," replied Mr. Fuller.

"I'd get every cent away from the Long

desn't own our lines," replied Mr. Fuller.
"I'd get every cent away from the Long Island road that I could."

Some one suggested that Ralph Peters, president of the Long Island Railroad, is a director of the New York and Queens county company, to which Mr. Fuller replied that the Railroad Commission could easily find out whether the Long Island road controls the trollay line.

Rudolph Horak of Steinway, who; said he represented a mass meeting attended by

Rudolph Horak of Steinway, who said he represented a mass meeting attended by 1,600 persons, announced that he had just recovered from an attack of pneumonia which he got by riding on an open car on the trolley line in January. He protested against open cars during the winter months. Commissioner Dickey wanted to know if the railroad officials intended to wait until more mass meetings are held in Queens and our hoard held up to further ridicule before they did anything. He then introduced his resolution calling for action by the attorney-General.

At the close of the meeting a man who had not previously announced himself, but said he represented Attorney-General Jackson, said that he would call upon the Queens folks soon for evidence against the Telmont lines.

JUDGE DIKE GOT PRAYER BOOK.

Had No Marriage Service Handy and Bustled Out to Get One. Judge Norman S. Dike of the County

Judge Norman S. Dike of the County Court, Brooklyn, has participated in many social events in that borough, including weddings but he never married a couple. He was surprised when a man and woman called yesterday at his office in the County court house and asked him to marry them. He excused himself, hurried to a book store and purchased an Episcopal prayer book. Then he returned to his office and asked the couple to stand before him. Taking the prayer book Judge Dike turned to the marriage service and read it as if he had been accustomed to marrying people all austomed to marrying people all

The couple gave their names as Joseph Ostroberg of 838 Myrtle avenue and Gussie Spinak of 201 Floyd street.

KENOSHA, Wis., April 6 .- Edward Collier. the chauffeur who was tried for the death of William Dreyer, who was killed by an automobile last July, has been found guilty of mansiaughter in the fourth degree by a Jasy in the Circh Court here. The verdict was reached after the jury had considered the evidence in the case for nearly two days, and it came as a great surprise to Collier's friends, who had expected a disgressment. AUTHOR OF "THE HABITANT"

Dr. William Henry Drummond Die: Stroke of Paralysis at Cobalt. MONTBEAL, April 6 .- Dr. William Henry Drummond, the well known Canadian author who wrote "The Habitant" and other

French Canadian dialect poems which enjoy a wide fame throughout the United States and Canada, died at Cobalt this morning from the effects of a stroke of paralysis. Dr. Drummond left his home in this city a few days ago apparently in the best of health for Cobalt to superintend some work at the Drummond mine, of which he and his brothers are owners.

On Thursday word came that he had a stroke of paralysis shortly after his arrival One of his brothers, accompanied by one of the leading doctors of this city, left at once for the silver camp and everything ossible was done for the stricken man. Yesterday he was reported to be improving and it was hoped that his naturally strong constitution would enable him to pull through, but during the night he grew gradually worse and passed away this

William Henry Drummond was born in the County Treitrim, Ireland, the son of George and Elizabeth Soden Drummond, in 1854. He left Ireland for the Province Quebec before he had entered his teens. He was educated in the English High School and at McGill University in Montreal. Later he studied medicine in Bishop's University in the same city. After he had versity in the same city. After he had obtained his degree of M. D. he settled in a typical mixed village in Quebec peopled by French and English speaking voyageurs, Indians, halfbreeds and French-Scotch-Irish-Canadians. There it was that he ac-

Irish-Catadians. There it was that he acquired his knowledge of the French Canadian dialect, which he used later in a masterly manner in his verses.

In 1884 he established a practise in Montreal and subsequently became professor of medical jurisprudence in Bishop's University. Dr. Drummond was regarded as one of the foremost of Canadian writers.

Many have contended that the charm of Many have contended that the charm of his dialect is unsurpassed by any other Canadian writer, but his verses are not more notable for their dialect than they are for the poetry and tenderness and fire of the narrative. "The Habitant" is probof the narrative. "The Habitant" is prob-ably his best known work. That poem made him favorably known in 1898. "Phil o' Rum's Canoe" and "Madeleine Ver-

o' Rum's Canoe" and "Madeleine Vertheres" were his next ventures, and they were received with great favor. Other verses that he had written are "Johnnie Corteau" and the "Voyageur."

In recent years Dr. Drummond lectured considerably in this country as well as in Canada. In 1902 his friends in this city gave him a dinner. Dr. Drummond was a man of powerful physique and in his gave him a dinner. Dr. Drummond was a man of powerful physique and in his younger days he was a well known athlete. He was an enthusiastic fisherman and hunter: at one time he was the Canadian three mile amazeur champion, and he also competed in hammer throwing and shot putting events. He married May Isobel Harvey, daughter of Octavius Charles Harvey of Jamaica. They had two children.

Oblinary Notes.

Charles W. Strine, manager of the Conried Opera Company, died yesterday morning at the Boothbay Hospital, Boston. He was born in Philadelphia on January 4, 1867, and in 1889 joined the staff of the Philadelphia Press and the Public Ledger. In 1894 he became business manager for John Philip Sousa and his band. In 1897 he became associated with Klaw & Erlanger as business manager. He left their employ to become business manager for C. A cilis and handled the tour of Mme. Melba to the Pacific Coast. In 1990 Mr. Strine vent to San Francisco, and for several, years was connected with various theatrical enterprises in that city. In 1995 he became connected with the Metropolitan Opera Company as manager of tours. He married in 1891 Miss Grace Runyan of Fennsylvania, who survives him. He also leaves a daughter, a mother, Mrs. Charles C. Strine of Philadelphia, and a brother, R. P. Strine, who is manager of musical attractions with an office at Sa. Louis.

of Philadelphia, and a brother. R. P. Strine, who is manager of musical attractions with an office at S4. Louis.

Capt. Michael H. Whalen died very suddenly of apoplexy at his home, 279 East Broadway, late on Friday night. Mr. Whalen was born in this city in 1818 on the lower East Side and had lived there all his life. He enlisted at the outbreak of the civil war and served throughout the war, rising to the rank of Captain. For twenty-one consecutive years he was commander of Peter Cooper Post G. A. R. In Clevelind's first administration he served as Deputy Surveyor of the Port of New York. He was liter a superintendent in the Street Cleaning Department under Commissioner Hans S. Benttie. From this he served as Deputy Surveyor of the Port of New York. He was later a superintendent in the Street Cleaning Department under Commissioner Hans S. Beattle. From this he resigned to enter the contracting business. As the head of the firm of Holland & Co. of 403 West Broadway he had the contract for cleaning lower Broadway. Mr. Whalen was a member of the Tammany Society, the Order of Eugles and the Democratic Club, and was a Tammany general committeeman. His wife and six children survive him.

Charles Edward Lawrence, who was for

and six children survive him.

Charles Edward Lawrence, who was for many years a banker and member of the New York Stock Exchange, died at his home, Hamilton Park, New Brighton, S. I., yesterday afternoon. Mr. Lawrence was 71 years old. He was born in New York and all of his business life was pent in this city. Forty years ago he succeeded to the banking business established by his father, Watson E. Lawrence, and he continued that business together with a brokerage business, until his \$\pi\$trement a few years ago. Mr. Lawrence leaves a widow and four children. These are Ashton C. and Ernest M. Lawrence, Mrs. James Crystal and Mrs. Ralph L. Pritchard. The burial will be in Trinity churchyard.

In Pritchard. The burial will be in Trinity churchyard.

John Duer Irving, a great-grandnephew of Washington Irving, died yesterday in his bachelor apartments at 31 East Twenty-eighth street, which he occuried with his brother. He was 23 years old and was a son of Alexander Duer Irving of Irvington. He was graduated from Cornell in 1898. He bought a seat on the Stock Exchange, which he sold recently, intending to travel with his mother, but she died. He was a member of the Union, Knollwood, University, Ardsley and Racquet and Tennis clubs. His father, one sister, Elaine, and three brothers, Alexander, Louis and Evelyn, survive him.

Richard Croker, brother of Fitz Chief Croker and a nephew of the ex-Tammany leader, died of paralysis vesterday at the home of Thaddeus S. Genin 19 Park street, Bloomfield. His only daughter, Florence, died ten days ago and this so affected him that on Tuesday he went to Bloomfield for a few days rest. He was born in Chatham, N. Y. and was a son of the late Edward Croker. He had been supervising engineer in the Department of Buildings in New York. He was a member of St. Albans Lodge, F. and A. M. and the Engineers' Association in Manhattan. Two sons, George and Warren Croker, survive bim.

Theron Rudd Marshall, a retired capitalist, died on Friday at his home in Chatham.

hattan. Two sons, George and Warren Croker, survive him.

Theron Rudd Marshall, a retired capitalist, died on Friday at his home in Chatham, Columbia county. He was 75 years old and was a native of Chatham. He went to the California gold fields in 1849 and upon his return became identified with various Columbia county hanks. He took a prominent part in local politics and held various county offices. He married Ella Knickerbooker of the Fort Orange branch of the family. He is survived by his wife, two sons, Charles H. of the Stock Exchange firm of Wardwell & Adams and Frederick, and one daughter, Louise Marshall La Pointe.

John H. Post, a veter in architect of Paterson, dropped dead on Ellison stree. In that city yesterday. He was smoking a cigar and was walking briskly when he fell dead. He was born in this city in 1833. His father was an architect. He was a charter member of the Arts and Crafts Society of this city. He built many of the largest silk mills in Peterson. the Paterson Opera House, Barnert Memorial Temple and schools and silk mills in Penensylvania, Connecticut and Virginia. He is survived by his wife and several children. A son died suddenly at Fort Schuyler early in the year.

Isaac N. Pryor, for many years the ferry master of the Rocklyn Ferry Company of

early in the year.

Isaac N. Pryor, for many years the ferry master of the Brooklyn Ferry Company of New York, was fatally stricken with apoplexy yesterday in the cash booth of the Twenty-third street ferry at the foot of Broadway, Williamsburg, while collecting fares. He was more than 65 years old, lived at 504 Bedford avenue and for fifty years was in the employ of the company, beginning as an errand boy. He was the secretary of the New York and Brooklyn Ferry Men's Association and is survived by his wife, a son and a daughter.

tion and is survived by his wife, a son and a daughter.

Lansing Van Wie died at Albany Friday. He was 33 years old, and was the oldest lawyer in that part of the State. He had devoted much time to a search for the origin of speech, and declared that in the Hebrew alphabet he had found the foundation of words. His family was one of the oldest on the Hudson, the homestead having been established at Van Wies Point in 1737. His late wife, who was Miss Abigail Perry Dodd, was a relative of Commodore Perry.

Anna C. Matthews, wife of Azel D. Mathews, a son of James Matthews of the dry goods 'Irm of A. D. Matthews' Sons of Brooklyn, died yesterday, at her home, 107 Fenimore street, Flatbush She was a member of the Flatbush Heformed Church and took an active interest in church work. In addition to her husband she leaves two daughters. The funeral services will be held at the house to-morrow evening.

JOSHED THE COLUMBIA PAPER.

RESHMAN GAVE IT THE NEWS OF DEFACING THE LIBRARY.

And the "Spectator" Startled the College With the Information That the Bull :ing's Dome Was to Be Cut Off to Make Room for an Astronomical Observatory.

Columbia has been stirred for two days y a report that the dome of the library to be chopped off to make room for an stronomical observatory.

It all started on Friday morning. On that day Secretary Keppel of the university picked up a copy of the Columbia Spectator He jumped from his chair, made a wild ash for the telephone and asked for F. A. Goetze, who has charge of the university

"Hello, Mr. Goetze," he fairly shouted, what's this I see about your planning to hop off the dome of the library?" "It's in the Spectator. Didn't you put

there?" was Mr. Keppel's next question. Mr. Goetze hurriedly sent for a Spectator and read:

Funds have been provided by an anonymot onor by means of which it is expected that scope of the work of the Wilde Astronomi al Observatory will be greatly increased wing to the effect which the jarring of the ubway trains has on the instruments it has een known for a long time that some change the position of the observatory would Through the funds that have to be made. have been given the trustees will be enabled to cut away a portion of the dome of the brary. In this place astronomical screens will be inserted so that the dome may be used for astronomical purposes without materially changing its appearance and so destroying the beauty of the structure.. A platform will be placed underneath on which the instruments will rest. The platform will be made to conform with the general chitectural scheme of the interior of the library and from underneath will have the

appearance of a dome somewhat flattened. By the time he had finished reading Mr Goetze's eyes were bulging even more than were the secretary's and all he could do was to inform Mr. Keppel that it must be some plan which the trustees had decided upon without consulting him. Mr. Keppel had hardly hung up the receiver when the bell rang and appetre voice greeted him.

rang and another voice greeted him.
"Mr. Keppel, what's this I hear about
the dome of the Columbia library being out
off to put in an astronomical observatory? It's an outrage and I want you to tell the president that I said so. I wonder if he got that idea out in California, or did his wife suggest it to him? But I want to say right here that the alumni won't stand for it if he wants our support." And the man at the other end hurriedly rang off.

Mr. Keppel decided to ask the president

about it, but he had no sooner got him on the wire than Dr. Butler began to inquire how such an idiotic report could have got

about.

By this time the students began to stroll into the office and every one had a note of protest to offer against cutting off the dome. Impromptu indignation meetings were held all over the campus. President Butler was denounced for disregarding all sentiment and the interests of the students in the interests of presidents.

terests of mere science.
In the meantime Mr. Keppel called up H. E. Chapin, editor in chief of the Speciator, and asked him where he got the story.

Chapin said that a freshman had brought it into the office late on Thursday afternoon with the information that the announce-ment had been made from the secretary's office. He added that he was preparing to omce. He added that he was preparing to write an editorial on the folly of destroying the one really impressive piece of architecture on the campus. The secretary advised the editor to question the freshman a little further before writing his editorial denying that the dome would be interfered with.

The freehman was sent for. He admitted that he had been up late for several nights in succession, but stoutly maintained that he had the news from an official source

ILLEGALLY COMMITTED.

to Be Released From Insape Asylum.

AMSTERDAM, N. Y., April 6—Justice
Devendorf, in Special Term of the Supreme Court at Herkimer, to-day confirmed the opinion of Referee Prescott discharging former City Judge Howard Putman of Amsterdam from the Utica State Hospital, where he has been confined as an insane person since August, 1898. The referee found that the commitment had been illegally made, and appearing for the State asked that Mr. Putman be recommitted to the asylum pending an appeal. Mr. Putman's attorney raised the question of jurisdiction and was sustained. Accordingly it is expected that Mr. Putman will soon be released from custody.

The Utica Hospital authorities maintain that Mr. Putman is still insane, but this question could not be brought out in the question could not be brought out in the hearings before the referee, as the action was brought to test the legality of the commitment. Mr. Putman, who was committed by Justice Martin L. Staver, was at the time he was declared insane one of the leading Democratic politicians of the city. The referee finds that when the petition was made Mr. Putman was not at the home of his brother-in-law, who verified the petition, and that no notice verified the petition, and that no notice of the application was served on Mr. Putman at any time.

SAYS TEACHER STRUCK HIM. Schoolboy Charges That He Was Punched Twice by Instructor.

I. Julius R eich, a teacher in Public School 16, on West Thirteenth street, was before Magistrate Whitman in the Jefferson Market court yesterday morning charged with assault on Harry Pease, 10 years old, a pupil in the e phool.

The boy, wlose face was bruised and swollen, charge # that Reich, who came to the school for the first time on Monday, struck him the t day with his clenched fist for talking in class. The lad said too that the teacher struck him again on Tuesday and knooke it his head against a desk.

day and knocks whis head against a desk. Joseph Gibson, another pupil, corroborated his schoolmate's story and said that he too was beaten by the teacher. Reich admitted that he had punished the boys by slapning them but denied using his fist. He declared they were troublesome in the classroom and that he was forced to adors radical measures to preserve order in the school. preserve order in the school.

Inspector Whitman paroled him in the custody of his coursel for another examination on Monder v afternoon. Reich has been acting as a ubstitute teacher in Public School 2, on Hen ry street, during the past year. He 22 year rould past year. He is 22 years old.

VILLAGE THREATA NED BY FIRE. Twelve Buildings on Fix e in Otisville, but

All But Two We 'e Saved. MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., Aparil 6 .- The village of Otisville, eight miles from here, nar-rowly escaped destruction; this morning, when for the second time this week fire occurred. The village has only an old fashioned hand pump for fire protection and when fire was discover a d in the Bailey Building, in the centre of the business section of the town after midnig the this morning, it was feared that the town would be destroyed. Every able I wided person in the village turned out and I fought the flames for several hours. The Bailey Building, cocupied by a baker? and living apartments, and the residence of Mrs. Margaret Estcham, were totally destroyed. A high wind was blowing and a tone time twelve buildings were blazing as all the fire department of this city was a alled upon for assistance. All but two buildings were saved, however. Mrs. Margaret: Ketcham and Mrs. Lydia Kniffin, the former 22 years old and the latter ill in bed, was a carried from their burning home by neighbors. and when fire was discover ; d in the Bailey

WOMEN CONVICTS ILL TREATED. Legislative Committee Finds Conditions

Very Bad. Particularly as to Negroes. AUSTIN, Tex., April 6. The committee

of the Legislature appointed to investigate the condition of pentientiary convicts made to-day a report in which it severely criticises the present method of handling the women convicts, particularly the negro The report says in part "We visited the farm and camp where the

female convicts of this State are detained and worked and regret to report that the conditions and management of this institution is to our minds wholly unsatisfactory. There are about one hundred female convicts confined and worked upon this farm, large majority of whom are negroes, who are forced to perform all manner of heavy farm labor, which in our opinion is out of all proportion to their strength and

nealth.
"When not engaged at their labor these negro women are crowded into an ordinary board building, wholly inadequate to pro-tect them from the cold in winter or the heat in summer, or to furnish them any comfort on Sundays or other times when not eng. ged at their work. It is insufficient from a saritary point of view, their sleeping apartments are miserable makeshifts and as a whole it falls far short of what should required for the health and comfort of female convicts.

the female convicts.

"We enter our protest against the manner of treatment of this class of convicts, and while we do not contend that others could do better under like circumstances, yet the whole plan is wrong and should not be longer tolerated. The contracting of the services of these few women and forcing them under contract to perform the labors they are now engaged in, with no hope of advantages or comforts other than they now have, is a reflection upon the State and in violence of the high moral and Christian ideals of our people, and same should be abolished, and we earnestly urge the penitentiary board to provide a more suitable method of handling and caring for these women."

COLER IN A M'CARREN CLUB. Denies That He Is Friendly to the Senator and Says He's Out of Politics.

Brooklyn politicians were interested yesterday in the report that President of the Borough Bird S. Coler had returned to the regular Democratic organization and had become an ally of Senator McCarren, against whose supremacy he has been a persistent fighter since the death of Hugh McLaughlin. The fact that Mr. Coler recently enrolled himself as a member of the Madison Club of the Eighteenth Assembly district was the basis for the

The Madison Club is a strong McCarren organizaton and is controlled by Deputy Comptroller John N. McCooey, one of

the Senator's stanchest friends, Mr. Coler when questioned about the matter yesterday had this to say:

"This has no political significance. You see McCooey and I have long been friends. I offered him a job in the banking business with more more wint than redition had. with more money in it than politics, but he wouldn't have it. Then again he has done favors for me and I didn't want to refuse his simple request to join his club. But I'm out of politics. As far as the Madson Club is concerned I am just a plain club

When it was suggested that he had probably become friendly with Senator McCar ren Mr. Coler said: "In the words of the immortal President ou do not speak truthfully."
Senator McCarren made this comment

senator accurren made this comment on the incident:

"There's room for them all. Of course, we are the people's party. We welcome Mr. Coler into our organization. He will have to vote our ticket, though."

SEIZED PAINTINGS RELEASED. Said to Be Merely Copies From a Ceiling

The paintings from Florence which were seized by the customs officials in Providence last December on the ground that they were undervalued have been released and in this city in the custody of Charles D. Stone & Co., custom house brokers at 32

Broadway The paintings are on twelve sections of wood representing a ceiling in Florence. Italy. At the office of the broker it is admitted that the paintings are old, but not mitted that the paintings are old, but not that they are in the true sense antiques, as they are merely copies of the original ceiling, which they say remains untouched in Florence. They allege that a dealer in Florence named S. Bardini sent them over here consigned to himself, thinking that he had obtained a customer. They were shipped to Providence because that was near Newport, where the man to whom at that time they were supposed to be sold has a summer residence. Who this man is the brokers decline to divulge. At any rate

has a summer residence. Who this man is the brokers decline to divulge. At any rate the bargain fell through and now Bardini is looking for another customer. Stone & Co., it is said, are merely holding the paintings as his agents.

It has been stated that the paintings were the originals and had been stripped from the ceiling of an old Italian villa in defiance of the Italian Government. It is pointed out, however, that if this were so action would probably have been taken through diplomatic channels before now.

UNDERTAKER HART BANKRUPT. Sen of William T. Hart, Long Time Sexton of St. Patrick's Cathedral

William J. Hart, whose father, the late William T. Hart, was for many years sexton of the Cathedral, and who himself was interested in an undertaking business at 507 Madison avenue, has filed a petition in bankruptcy as a clerk at that address, with liabilities of \$61,256 and no assets. Among the creditors are Charles J. Flood, \$18,000 the creditors are Charles J. Flood, \$18,000 borrowed money; Thomas J. McLaughlin, \$7,000 indorser on note; J. A. Wendle, Stamford, Conn., \$8,000 claim for damages; Mechanics' Bank of Brooklyn, \$5,219 judgment on a note; Fourteenth Street Bank, \$3,530 indorser on a note; Thomas J. McMahon, \$3,200 borrowed money; Richard F. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls, \$2,761 judgment on a note; Thomas D. Sarlol, Washington, D. C., \$2,000 borrowed money, and New York and Brooklyn Casket Company, \$3,000 for caskets.

The eon was never sexton of the Cathedral, but for a time after his father's death the father's sign, which said he was the sexton of St. Patrick's, was left in front of the place of business at 507 Madison

BURIED ALIVE IN TRENCH. Wall of the Ditch Caved In and Mahoney

Was Carried Down With It. Dennis Mahoney was buried alive yesterday by the cavein of a sewer trench at the Hudson Boulevard and Beach street, Jersey City. He was one of four laborers engaged by F. W. Neuman, a plumber engaged by F. W. Neuman, a plumber of 108 Hutton street, to dig the excavation. He was standing beside a negro named Hall wielding a pick when the wall of the ditch fell in. He fell with it and the dirt quickly covered him. Hall was buried to his armpits and his fellow workmen dug him out without difficulty.

Mahoney was dead when the laborers uncovered him. He lived at Tonnele and Manhattan avenues.

Boston, April 6 .- Trapped in a burning mill at East Saugus, Michael Desmond and Oscar Ellis, both of Malden, workmen in the place, were burned to death to-day The mill was occupied by S. W. Gould Bros. of Malden for herb grinding and was on the bank of the Saugus River. An explosion blew out the side of the building. The Masonic Building, close by, was damaged by the spread of the flames, as was also the East Saugus Hose Company's house. The East Saugus Boat Club's building was also destroyed.

HACKED WIFE WITH A HATCHEY

AFTER NEARLY KILLING HER BISWELL HANGED HIMSELF.

Blacksmith Goes Insane and Makes a Murderous Attack on His Wife-She Will Die of Her Wounds-Their Young Son Sees Tragedy Through a Window.

PATERSON, N. J., April 6 .-- Anton Biswall, a blacksmith, went insane this morning and cut his wife's head in nine places with a small hatchet. He then went to the garret of his home on the Goffle road, North Paterson, and hanged himself. Mrs. Biswell was brought to Paterson in an express wagon and taken to the General Hospital. She will die.

August Biswell, the ten-year-old son of the couple, was the only witness of the tragedy. He was in the yard of the Biswell ome feeding chickens when he heard his mother scream. He ran to the house, but found the door barred. He looked through the window and saw his mother on the floor, his father holding her by the throat and hitting her on the head with

Young Biswell tried to get into the house; but could not. He yelled at his father, but the man did not stop his blows on his wife's head until she became unconscious. Then he ran to the window and smashed sash and glass and threw the hatchet into the yard. He then ran upstairs and hanged nimself to a rafter in the garret.

himself to a rafter in the garret. Young Biswell got a large stone and broke in the door. He then dragged his mother to a bed and bandaged her head roughly. After this he ran to get help. Several neighbors responded, but for a time all feared to go into the house. Dr. Mack of North Paterson had been summoned and accompanied by Recorder J. Keefe of Hawthorne borough he went inside. Finding Mrs. Biswell was still alive she was hurried to Paterson. Keefe found Biswell hanging in the

alive she was hurried to Paterson.
Keefe found Biswell hanging in the
garret. His feet were drawn up from the
floor, the garret ceiling being low. There
was still life in the body when it was cut
down, but Dr. Mack was unable to restore

Young Biswell says his father had been despondent for several weeks. He had been working at his trade in New York city, but had lost his job. He had been able to get only odd jobs from farmers near his home. The family moved into its present quarters three weeks ago from Wortendyke.

STEWART KNOWS HIS BUSINESS. pose He Is Digging Up His Backyard for Gold: That's His Affair.

John Stewart, who keeps a small grocery store at Mercer street and Mill road, Jersey City, and his hired man have been working overtime for three days blassing trap rock, cracking stores, digging holes and carrying on general prospecting operations in Stew-art's back yard. His neighbors have been much interested in the proceedings and in the report that the grocer is looking for

Is was noticed yesterday that several folks living in the neighborhood spent con-siderable time squinting at rock and making excavations on their premises. Two or three denied that they had the gold fever and said it was nobody's business what they

were doing.
When seen at his store yesterday Mr. Stewart said:

Stewart said:

"Yes, my man and myself have been pretty active for three days. What have we been doing? Just digging holes and filling 'em up again. No, I'm not taking out rock for crushed stone. It isn't necessary that the public should know what I'm up to. We're only digging for curiosity. That ought to satisfy everybody.

"There ought to be gold along this ledge of trap rock and if I discover any the people will find it out soon enough. At present mum's the word with me. Good day, sir."

Stewart's back yard looks as if a dynamite magazine had exploded in it.

TEXAS RAILROADS GIVE IN. Accept Intangible Property Tax-The State

GALVESTON, Tex., April 6 .- The railroads of Texas have made another compromise with the State by agreeing to accept the intangible property tax upon the State agree ing to repeal the three per cent, tax upon the

gross earnings of the roads. The intangible tax law was adopted some time ago. The railroads protested and carried the case into the courts, where it is still pending. Then the Legislature passed the gross earnings tax law. The railroads submitted evidence to show that the imposition of all these taxes would drive at least five

road s into bankruptoy.

The railroads estimate they will save about \$4,000,000 a year by this deal. The intangible property tax cannot cripple the roads because there are only a few strictly Texas lines, and there is no inclination on the part of the county tax assessors to force the issue.

GLAD TO BE ALIVE.

Healy and Spink, Hit by a Locometive Congratulated Each Other

Thomas Healy, 36 years old, of 70 Park venue, and William Spink, 21 years old, of 127 Garden street, both in Hoboken, shook hands with each other yesterday afternoon nands with each other yesterday afternoon after they had been knocked off the east-bound main line track of the Lackawamna railroad at the east end of the Bergen tunnel by the locomotive of an incoming passenger train. Their exchange of congratulations followed the discovery that they were apparently unburt except for some slight scalp wounds.

An ambulance surgeon from the Jersey City Hospital bandanged their heads and sent them home.

SUBWAY CAR AFIRE.

Sparks From Short Circuited Wire Set

Beam Blazing. A northbound Lenox avenue subway train was leaving the Fourteenth street station yesterday morning when the wires leading from the shoe on the forward truck of the second car were short circuited. Sparks from the flashes of fire which followed caught the wooden beam over the shoe through which the wires passed. The train came to a stop with the rear car beside the station platform.

The flame and smoke gave the passengers enough of a scare to send them through the cars to the rear, where they left the tain. After the power had been turned off the employees had no trouble putting out the fire. station yesterday morning when the wire

Humphreys' Seventy-Seven Cures Colds and

Cold at the beginning and its continued use breaks up Stubborn Colds that hang on and have not yielded to other treat-

While Grip may be on the wane, Spring Colds are now prevalent and the best work of "Seventy-seven" is done on Common Colds.

At Druggists, 25 cents or me" . and John Streets, New York.

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Also a tine line of St. Gall embroideries, in flouncings and allowers. with bandings; galloons, double edge insertions and edgings, all in match sets. A large variety of French and German Valenciennes, in allobers, with

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Collar and Cuff Sets, in various designs (embroidered)-

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Point Venise and Irish! Crochet Chemisette Sets, round and pointed

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55c, 98c, \$2.98

values 98c., \$1.49 and \$4.50. Real Princess Chemisettes-

\$1.75 and \$1.98

values \$2.50 and \$2.75.

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